(ख) क्या इन अधिकारियों को निलंबित कर दिया गया है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो उनमें से कितने अधिकारियों को निलंबित कर दिया गया है और कितनों को छुट्टी पर चले जाने के लिए कहा गया है ;

(घ) किन-किन अभिकरणों या व्यक्तियों ने जांच की है और उनकी रिपोर्ट क्या-क्या है ; और

(ङ) चूककर्ता अधिकारियों के विरुद्ध क्या कार्रवाही की गयी है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री दलबीर सिंह) : (क) से (ङ) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और यथा उपलब्ध सूचना सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी ।

Fraud and closure of Bank of Karad

530. SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH:

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:

SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for taking the decision regarding closure of the Bank of Karad;

(b) what is the quantum of money misappropriated in this bank in connivance with its officers, and details of fraud committed by the bank; and

(c) what are the names of the officers of the bank who have been found guilty in this regard and what action has been taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SIGNH): (a) Due to large-scale irregularities in the securities transactions undertaken by the Bank of Karad Ltd. on behalf of certain brokers, a huge financial liability much beyond its capacity to fulfil would have devolved on the bank and the Bank's continuance would have been further prejudicial to the interests of the public and depositors. In the circumstances, the Reserve Bank of India moved the High Court, Bomaby, under Section 38 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, for the winding up of the Bank of Karad Ltd. The Bank has been placed under provisional liquidation as per the orders of the Bombay High Court, with effect from the close of 27-5-1992.

(b) The Committee (Janakiraman Committee) set up by the Reserve Bank of India to inquire into the possible irregularities in funds managements by commercial banks and financial institutions has, in its second iterim report, identified an amount of Rs. 894.22 crores for which the Bank of Karad has issued BRs/SGL. transfer forms and for which that Bank does not appear to have sufficient backing. These BRs/SGL transfer forms are held by the CANBANK Financial Services Ltd., Canbank Mutual Fund and Standard Chartered Bank.

(c) The Committee has so far not examined the staff accountability in the security transactions of Banks/Institutions. However, the RBI has taken action to remove the Chairman and two Director of Bank of Karad who were also the broker clients of the Bank, from its Board. CBI had arrested a Manager and a clerk of the Bank, who have been granted bail by the Special Court.

Bank representatives' demand for Judicial probe into Security Scam

531. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the representative of the All India Bank Officers'

Association and the All India Bank Employees Association in a joint press conference at Madras on June 9, 1992 demanded the constitution of a judicial commission headed by a Supreme Court Judge to investigate into the recnt scurities scam, particularly, for investigating the involvement of Bank officers and management in the scam:

(b) if so, what are their precise demand; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been reported by the Indian Banks' Association that although no communication has been received by them it is understood that the General Secretary, AIBOA and Secretary, AIBEA on the 9th June, 1992, in a joint press statement, had demanded either appointment of a Joint Parliamentary Committee or constitution of Judicial Commission to investigate into the involvement of bank officers and management in the security scam.

(c) The Prime Minister has requested the Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha to proceed with the formation of a joint Parliamentary Committee.

Seizure of silver at Indore and Dhar

532. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that contraband silver weighing about 6142 kilograms, valued at around rupees 4.38 crores was seized by officials of central excise and customs in Indore and Dhar districts in Madhya Pradesh on Monday, the 8th June, 1992;

(b) whether any gang of smugglers was busted in connection therewith, if so, the details thereof, the persons apprehended and their *modus operandi*; and

(c) what is the total amount of contraband silver so far seized during the current year, indicating the major hauls and the details of the smugglers' gang detected in connection therewith?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Contraband silver weighing 6142 kgs. (approximately) value at Rs. 4.30 crores was seized by the officers of the Customs and Central Excise Collectorate, Indore on 7/8.6.1992 in Indore and Dhar districts of Madhya Pradesh.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

India's credit rating in International Market

533. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Governments' efforts to get its credit rating in the International Market have failed to achieve the desired results;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what measures are contemplated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c) The international credit rating organisations like the Standard & Poor (S&P) and the Moody's Investors' Service had not yet change their ratings for India which are in the non-investment grade. Although, the Japan Bond Research Institute (JBRI) has not changed the rating, the existing rating BBB indicating a medium degree of credit worthiness and so a safe investment. JBRI has also removed from the rating reappraisal scheme